

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of processing a digital image to animate a figure in the image. The method includes the steps of providing the digital still image; identifying the figure in the digital still image to be animated; generating an  
5 animation model of the figure; substituting the animation model for the figure in the digital still image; detecting an area of missing detail in the digital still image resulting from the substitution; identifying information in the digital still image adjacent the area of missing detail; replicating the identified information, and  
10 inserting the replicated identified information into the area of missing detail to generate an animated image.